

District Official Award of Excellence (No photo available at this time)

Since he became a supervisor in 1981, Marvin Bury has been the treasurer of Day County Conservation District. His past experience as Lake Region Electric Cooperative office manager, personal outdoor interest and landowner background make him a valuable asset to the Conservation District board. In 2008, the northeast region's tree resources were devastated by straight line winds. Webster lost an estimated 1,000 trees. Marvin and the Conservation District's manager Cindy Zenk led an effort to begin reforesting Webster, Waubay and Pierpont communities, including a special tree planting grant from the Governor's office. Elected to the Day County Commission in 2005, Marvin uses every opportunity to promote the conservation message to his fellow commissioners. Marvin advocates area youth involvement in conservation and helped create the Conservation District's annual scholarship program. Natives of Day County, he and his wife LaVonne raised their three children there and teach them and their grandchildren to appreciate and care for the outdoors.

District Newsletter Award (no photo available at this time)

District supervisors write articles and suggest topics to cover information in the quarterly issues of the "Butte Conservation District Happenings." They also suggest and contact businesses for advertising support which pays for the printing and mailing costs. Supervisors are also involved in many of the events covered in the newsletter and are, therefore, pictured and quoted in articles that cover these events. The newsletter's goal is to give the reader a bit of newsworthiness and a "heads up" of what's coming regarding dates and deadlines.

District Employee Award of Excellence



SDACD President Irwin Symens presents Patty Beck with the Association's 2009 District Employee Award of Excellence.

District manager for 28 years, Patty Beck administers Bennett and Shannon County Conservation Districts. As their only employee, Patty handles the daily business, manages the repair and rental of the no-till drills and tree planters, orders and oversees the sales and planting of trees, handles the fabric contractor's list, and all other duties associated with two conservation districts. Patty keeps her boards informed of new programs that will increase the Districts' capabilities and public interest in all conservation programs. She secures many grants for both Conservation Districts and has won two Izaak Walton League awards. Patty helped set organize South Dakota Rangeland Days in two counties, in addition to her regular public education program.

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Professional Service

Legendary among co-workers and supervisors for his professionalism and envied for his outstanding work ethic and cheerful manner, District Conservationist Tom Quinn is respected and admired by thousands of cooperators he has worked with. The Butte and Lawrence Conservation Districts consider Tom a critical link in the successful implementation of the Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership. Working in two conservation districts with two boards of supervisors, two district office managers, and his own NRCS staff of six, Tom oversees about 200 active EQIP contracts, 2 WHIP contracts, 15 Fish & Wildlife pond projects, 2 Ducks Unlimited projects, and \$500,000 in EPA-319 cost-share funds. In 2007, Tom was among the group Region 7 EPA awarded with their Environmental Achievement Award. Whether it's showing one child how to plant a tree or demonstrating responsible conservation to 1,500 students in two days, Tom enthusiastically and willingly shares information. Tom's community activities include service on the Spearfish City Council and becoming one of the first vintners in the Black Hills.



SDACD President Irwin Symens presents Tom Quinn with the Association's 2009 Professional Service Award.

Service to Conservation



President Irwin Symens presents Matt Stoltenburg and Jason Reed of RESPEC, Inc. with the Association's 2009 Service to Conservation Award.

As an engineering and consulting firm, RESPEC, Inc. provides assessment and planning technical assistance to several Hills area conservation districts for both rangeland and irrigated croplands. They also help in the grant writing process and track and report on grants the conservation districts received. RESPEC aids with many of the Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership's presentation and public outreach programs and assists in data collection and dissemination. According to the Butte Conservation District, RESPEC is part of the watershed team and has greatly contributed to the successes of the

watershed. Those working for RESPEC become very involved in community activities, including churches, sporting events, education and the arts.